CLAIMS

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Subc'y

3   1.   A hardware upgrade for a terminal for use with a television program delivery system,

4   the hardware upgrade comprising:

5   an interface to the terminal; and

6   a modem connected to the interface.

7

8   2.   The hardware upgrade of claim **1** further comprising a microprocessor connected

9   between the interface and the modem.

10

11   3.   The hardware upgrade of claim **2** further comprising memory connected to the

12   microprocessor.

13

14   4.   The hardware upgrade of claim **1** wherein the modem is capable of communicating

15   with an interactive service.

16

17   5.   The hardware upgrade of claim **4** wherein the interactive service is outside of the

18   television program delivery system.

19

20   6.   The hardware upgrade of claim **4** wherein the interactive service is selected from a

21   group consisting of home shopping, airline reservations, news, financial information,

22   classified advertisements, home banking, and interactive teletext.

23

24   7.   The hardware upgrade of claim **1** wherein the modem is capable of communicating

25   with an on-line database.

26

27   8.   The hardware upgrade of claim **7** wherein the on-line database is outside of the

28   television program delivery system.

29

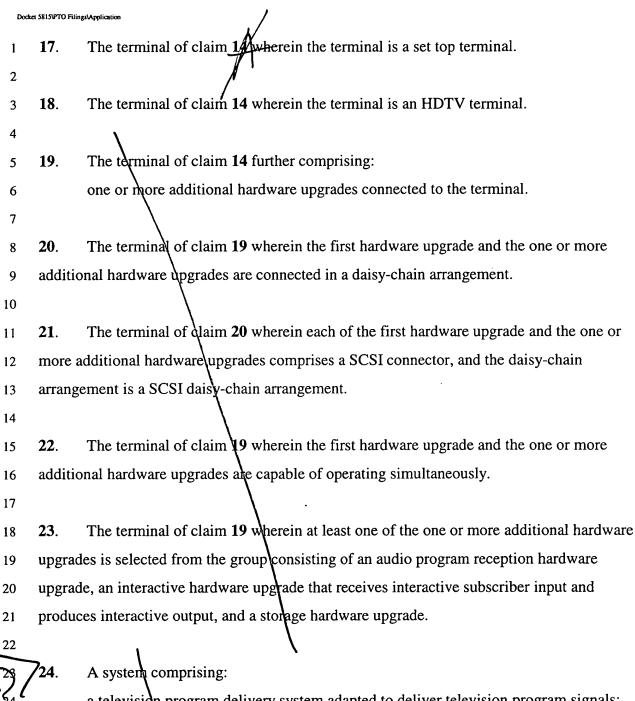1   **9.**   The hardware upgrade of claim **7** wherein the on-line database contains data

2   concerning one or more applications selected from a group consisting of home shopping,

3   airline reservations, news, financial information, classified advertisements, home banking,

4   and interactive teletext.

5

6   **10.**   The hardware upgrade of claim **1** wherein the interface to the terminal comprises a

7   four-wire connector.

8

9   **11.**   The hardware upgrade of claim **1** wherein the interface to the terminal comprises a

10 multipin connector.

11

12 **12.**   The hardware upgrade of claim **11** wherein the multipin connector is a multipin

13 connector ranging from type DB9 to type DB25.

14

15 **13.**   The hardware upgrade of claim **1** wherein the interface to the terminal comprises a

16 SCSI connector.

17

18 **14.**   A terminal for use with a television program delivery system, the terminal comprising:

19   a receiver adapted to receive programs; and

20   a first hardware upgrade comprising:

21   an interface to the terminal; and

22   a modem connected to the interface.

23

24 **15.**   The terminal of claim **14** further comprising a display that indicates when the

25 hardware upgrade is in use.

26

27 **16.**   The terminal of claim **14** wherein the terminal has an expansion card slot, and wherein

28 the interface comprises at least one card connector adapted for use with the expansion card

29 slot.

44

1   **17.**   The terminal of claim 14 wherein the terminal is a set top terminal.

2

3   **18.**   The terminal of claim **14** wherein the terminal is an HDTV terminal.

4

5   **19.**   The terminal of claim **14** further comprising:

6   one or more additional hardware upgrades connected to the terminal.

7

8   **20.**   The terminal of claim **19** wherein the first hardware upgrade and the one or more

9   additional hardware upgrades are connected in a daisy-chain arrangement.

10

11   **21.**   The terminal of claim **20** wherein each of the first hardware upgrade and the one or

12   more additional hardware upgrades comprises a SCSI connector, and the daisy-chain

13   arrangement is a SCSI daisy-chain arrangement.

14

15   **22.**   The terminal of claim **19** wherein the first hardware upgrade and the one or more

16   additional hardware upgrades are capable of operating simultaneously.

17

18   **23.**   The terminal of claim **19** wherein at least one of the one or more additional hardware

19   upgrades is selected from the group consisting of an audio program reception hardware

20   upgrade, an interactive hardware upgrade that receives interactive subscriber input and

21   produces interactive output, and a storage hardware upgrade.

22

23   **24.**   A system comprising:

24   a television program delivery system adapted to deliver television program signals;

25   and

26   a terminal comprising:

27   a receiver adapted to receive at least some of the television program signals;

28   and

29   a hardware upgrade comprising:

45

1   an interface to the terminal; and

2   a modem connected to the interface.

3

4   **25.**   The system of claim **24** wherein the television program delivery system is a cable

5   television program delivery system.

6

7   **26.**   The system of claim **25** wherein the cable television program delivery system

8   comprises an operations center, the operations center transmitting one or more of the

9   programs to the terminal.

10

11   **27.**   The system of claim **26** wherein the cable television program delivery system further

12   comprises one or more headends, a particular one of the one or more headends transmitting

13   one or more of the programs to the terminal.

14

15   **28.**   The system of claim **24** wherein the television program delivery system is a satellite

16   broadcast system.

17

18   **29.**   The system of claim **24** wherein the terminal is an HDTV terminal.

19

20   **30.**   A television terminal comprising:

21   a television program receiver;

22   a modem; and

23   an output connected to the receiver and the modem, wherein the output accepts

24   television program signals from the receiver and data signals from the modem.

25

26   **31.**   The television terminal of claim **30** wherein the output is a video display.

27

28   **32.**   The television terminal of claim **30** wherein the output is a connector port.

29

1   33.   The television terminal of claim 30 further comprising a microprocessor connected to

2   the modem.

3

4   34.   The television terminal of claim 33 further comprising memory connected to the

5   microprocessor.

6

7   35.   The television terminal of claim 30 wherein the modem is capable of communicating

8   with an interactive service.

9

10   36.   The television terminal of claim 35 wherein the interactive service is outside of the

11   television program delivery system.

12

13   37.   The television terminal of claim 35 wherein the interactive service is selected from a

14   group consisting of home shopping, airline reservations, news, financial information,

15   classified advertisements, home banking, and interactive teletext.

16

17   38.   The television terminal of claim 30 wherein the modem is capable of communicating

18   with an on-line database.

19

20   39.   The television terminal of claim 38 wherein the on-line database is outside of the

21   television program delivery system.

22

23   40.   The television terminal of claim 38 wherein the on-line database contains data

24   concerning one or more applications selected from a group consisting of home shopping,

25   airline reservations, news, financial information, classified advertisements, home banking,

26   and interactive teletext.

27

28   41.   The television terminal of claim 30 wherein the television terminal is an HDTV

29   ~~terminal.~~

1   **42.**   A method comprising:

2   receiving a television program;

3   receiving subscriber input;

4   communicating through a modem, comprising:

5   transmitting data based on the subscriber input; and

6   receiving data; and

7   displaying the television program and/or information based on the received data.

8

9   **43.**   The method of claim **42** wherein the received data comprises information concerning

10   the television program.

11

12   **44.**   The method of claim **43** wherein the information concerning programs is selected

13   from a group consisting of quizzes, facts, geographical information, and product information.

14

15   **45.**   The method of claim **42** wherein the communicating step further comprises:

16   communicating with at least one interactive service.

17

18   **46.**   The method of claim **45** wherein the interactive service is outside of the television

19   program delivery system.

20

21   **47.**   The method of claim **45** wherein the interactive service is selected from a group

22   consisting of home shopping, airline reservations, news, financial information, classified

23   advertisements, home banking, and interactive teletext.

24

25   **48.**   The method of claim **42** wherein the communicating step further comprises:

26   communicating with at least one on-line database.

27

28   **49.**   The method of claim **48** wherein the on-line database is outside of the television

29   ~~program delivery system.~~

48

1   **50.**   The method of claim **48** wherein the on-line database contains data related to one or

2   more applications selected from a group consisting of home shopping, airline reservations,

3   news, financial information, classified advertisements, home banking, and interactive teletext.

4

5   **51.**   The method of claim **52** further comprising:

6   storing digital data on a storage device.

7

8   **52.**   The method of claim **51** wherein the storage device is a disc.

9

10   **53.**   The method of claim **52** wherein the disc is a CD.

11

12   **54.**   The method of claim **53** wherein the CD is a CD-ROM.

13

14   **55.**   The method of claim **51** further comprising:

15   processing the digital data stored on the storage device.

16

17   **56.**   The method of claim **51** wherein the stored digital data concerns one or more

18   applications selected from a group consisting of games, education, encyclopedias, reference,

19   and economics.

20

21   **57.**   The method of claim **51** wherein the received data comprises information concerning

22   the television program, and the method further comprises:

23   monitoring the information concerning programs; and

24   retrieving the stored digital data, in response to the monitoring step.

25

26   **58.**   The method of claim **42** further comprising:

27   remotely receiving the interactive subscriber input.

28

29

1   **59.**   The method of claim **42** further comprising:

2   generating a menu on a television, wherein the subscriber input comprises menu

3   selections.